

What is claimed is:

1. A vertically aligned liquid crystal display, comprising:  
a vertically aligned liquid crystal layer disposed between  
5 a plurality of pixel electrodes and a common electrode, the  
orientation of said liquid crystal layer being controlled by an  
electric field, wherein:

said common electrode comprises one or more orientation  
controllers formed in an area corresponding to each of said plurality  
10 of pixel electrodes,

each of said plurality of pixel electrodes is divided by one  
or more slits or projections into two or more electrode regions  
which are electrically connected and arranged in parallel with  
each other, and a vertical to horizontal length ratio of each  
15 electrode region is larger than a vertical to horizontal length  
ratio of a corresponding one of said plurality of pixel electrodes,  
and

each of said one or more orientation controllers has a sloped  
projection extending along the direction in which said one or more  
20 slits or projections of each of said plurality of pixel electrodes  
extend.

2. The liquid crystal display according to claim 1,  
wherein one orientation controller is formed for each of said  
25 electrode regions.

3. The liquid crystal display according to claim 1, wherein:

one orientation controller is formed for each of said electrode regions, and

each of said orientation controllers is in the form of a sloped projection which extends along the longer edge of said electrode region in an area corresponding to the center part of said electrode region.

4. The liquid crystal display according to claim 3, wherein said orientation controller is in the form of a sloped projection which branches at both longitudinal ends of said electrode region toward corner sections of said electrode region.

5. A vertically aligned liquid crystal display, comprising:  
a vertically aligned liquid crystal layer disposed between a plurality of pixel electrodes and a common electrode, the orientation of said liquid crystal layer being controlled by an electric field, wherein:

said common electrode comprises one or more orientation controllers formed in an area corresponding to each of said plurality of pixel electrodes, and

each of said plurality of pixel electrodes is divided into two or more electrically connected electrode regions, which are arranged in parallel and spaced from each other in the horizontal direction when a shorter edge direction and a longer edge direction of each of said electrode regions are defined as a horizontal direction and a vertical direction, respectively, and the vertical to horizontal length ratio of each electrode region is greater than or equal to 2.

6. The liquid crystal display according to claim 5,  
wherein one orientation controller is formed for each of said  
electrode regions.

5 7. The liquid crystal display according to claim 5, wherein:  
one orientation controller is formed for each of said electrode  
regions, and

each of said orientation controllers has a sloped projection  
which extends along the longer edge of each of said electrode regions  
10 in an area corresponding to the center part of each of said electrode  
regions.

8. The liquid crystal display according to claim 7,  
wherein said orientation controller has a sloped projection  
which branches at both longitudinal ends of each of said electrode  
regions toward corner sections of each of said electrode regions.

9. The liquid crystal display according to claim 5,  
wherein the vertical to horizontal length ratio of each said  
20 two or more electrode regions constituting each of said plurality  
of pixel electrodes is larger than the vertical to horizontal length  
ratio of a corresponding one of said plurality of pixel electrodes.

10. A vertically aligned liquid crystal display, comprising:  
25 a vertically aligned liquid crystal layer disposed between  
a plurality of pixel electrodes and an opposing or a counter electrode,  
the orientation of said liquid crystal layer being controlled by  
an electric field, wherein:

said common electrode comprises one or more orientation controllers each formed in an area corresponding to each of said plurality of pixel electrodes,

each of said plurality of pixel electrodes is divided into two or more electrically connected electrode regions, which are arranged in parallel and spaced from each other in the direction of shorter edges of said electrode regions, and

each of said one or more orientation controllers has a portion extending along the longer edge of said electrode regions.

11. A vertically aligned liquid crystal display, comprising:

a vertically aligned liquid crystal layer disposed between a plurality of pixel electrodes and a common electrode, the orientation of said liquid crystal layer being controlled by an electric field, wherein:

said common electrode comprises a plurality of orientation controllers formed in areas corresponding to respective pixel electrode among said plurality of pixel electrodes; and

each of said plurality of pixel electrodes is divided by a plurality of slits or projections into a plurality of electrode regions, which are electrically connected and arranged in parallel with each other, and said plurality of orientation controllers have portions extending along the direction in which the plurality of slits or projections of each of said plurality of pixel electrodes extend and are disposed alternately with the plurality of slits or projections of each of said plurality of pixel electrodes when viewed in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction

of each of said plurality of pixel electrodes.

12. The liquid crystal display according claim 11,

wherein each one of said plurality of orientation controllers  
5 has a sloped projection extending along the longer edge of each  
of said plurality of electrode regions in an area facing the center  
part of each of said plurality of electrode regions.

13. The liquid crystal display according claim 12,

10 wherein the sloped projection of each one of said plurality  
of orientation controllers branches at both longitudinal ends of  
a corresponding one of said electrode regions toward the corner  
sections of said electrode regions.

14. A vertically aligned liquid crystal display, comprising:

a vertically aligned liquid crystal layer disposed between  
a plurality of pixel electrodes and a common electrode, the  
orientation of said liquid crystal layer being controlled by an  
electric field, wherein;

20 said common electrode comprises a plurality of orientation  
controllers formed in areas corresponding to each of said plurality  
of pixel electrodes, respectively,

each of said plurality of pixel electrodes is divided by one  
or more slits or projections into two or more electrode regions,  
25 which are electrically connected and arranged in parallel with  
each other, and

each of said plurality of orientation controllers associated  
with a corresponding one of said plurality of pixel electrodes

has portions extending along the direction in which said one or more slits or projections extend, and one of said plurality of orientation controllers is disposed between said two slits or projections and/or between the corresponding one of said one or  
5 more slits or projections and a gap between adjoining pixel electrodes.

15. The liquid crystal display according claim 14,  
wherein each one of said plurality of orientation controllers has a sloped projection extending along the longer edge of each  
10 of said electrode regions in an area facing the center part in each of said two or more electrode regions.

16. The liquid crystal display according to claim 14,  
wherein each one of said plurality of orientation controllers branches at both longitudinal ends of a corresponding one of said  
15 electrode regions toward the corner sections of said electrode regions.